

CLAIMS

1. A method for changing the service level for a subscriber in an electronic communication network, **characterised** by the steps of:

- 5 creating one or more voucher records
(203,204,205;213,214) for one or more services, wherein each record comprises a voucher quantity (203b,204b,205b; 213b,214b) of vouchers and an identification parameter for association with one or more services, and
10 associating said one or more records with a subscriber (201,211) for usage by said subscriber when utilising said services.

2. A method according to claim 1, **characterised** by
15 the steps of:

- creating one or more rating records (301) in a rating structure for storage of a fee (301a) of units to be charged for service usage, further comprising a voucher type identification (301b) and a voucher quantity (301c),
20 specifying the type and the quantity of vouchers corresponding to said fee (301a) for a particular service.

3. A method according to claim 1 or 2, **characterised** by the steps of:

- 25 creating one or more rating records (302) in a rating structure for storage of an amount or rate (302a) of units to be deducted to rate an interval and a charging interval (302b) to be rated, a voucher type identification (302c) and a voucher quantity (302d), specifying the type and the
30 quantity of vouchers corresponding to the rate for said interval.

4. A method according to claim 2 or 3, **characterised** by the further steps of:

receiving an incoming charging request from a service element (101,103,105,106,107,108,111) for service usage, analysing said rating structure for said charging request,

5 if there is a condition in said rating structure for said request, finding a resulting rating record (301,302) for return to said request,

if said rating record (301,302) comprises a voucher type identification (301b, 302c) and if a record (205;214),
10 having a identification (205a;214a) corresponding to said voucher type identification (301b, 302c) of said rating record (301,302), is available for said user,

decreasing the voucher quantity (205b;214b) of said voucher record (205;214) with a value corresponding to the
15 consumed service.

5. A method according to claim 3 or 4, wherein said rating records (301a, 302a) has a discount percentage value that fixes the maximum percentage of the service usage that
20 is payable using the vouchers for a particular service that can be paid using the vouchers.

6. A method according to any of the preceding claims, wherein said voucher records (203,204,205;213,214) is
25 arranged in a list (202,212) associated with said subscriber (201,211).

7. A method according to any of the preceding claims, wherein said voucher records (203,204,205;213,214) has an
30 expiry date.

8. A method according to any of the claims 5-7, wherein, if a priority order for the usage of said voucher record (205;214), having a voucher type identification
35 (205a;214a) corresponding to said voucher type

identification (301b, 302c) of said rating record
(301,302), or another unit of payment (201b;211b)
associated with said subscriber (201;211) is available, the
voucher record or unit of payment (201b;,211b) is selected
5 for decrease according to said priority order.

9. A method according to any of the claim 8, wherein
said priority order is modified by the subscriber.

10 10. A method according to any of the preceding
claims, wherein said quantity or unit is a number of SMS,
EMS, MMS, volume of data, time of service usage or a
monetary value.

15 11. A computer program comprising program code means
for performing all the steps of any of the claims 1-10 when
said program is run on a computer.

20 12. A computer program product comprising program
code means stored on a computer readable medium for
performing the method of any of the claims 1-10 when said
product is run on a computer.

25 13. A system for changing the service level for a
subscriber in an electronic communication network,
characterised in that said system is configured to
perform the steps of any of the claims 1-10.